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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
BEFORE THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES

In re Application of:	:	
Glenn P. Vonk et al.	:	Confirmation No. 5157
Serial No.: 09/881,041	:	Group Art Unit: 3626
Filed: June 15, 2001	:	Examiner: Thomas, Joseph
For: A HEALTH OUTCOMES AND DISEASE	:	
MANAGEMENT NETWORK AND	:	
RELATED METHOD FOR PROVIDING	:	
IMPROVED PATIENT CARE	:	

RESPONSE TO NOTIFICATION OF NON-COMPLIANT APPEAL BRIEF

This paper is being submitted in response to the Notification of Non-Compliant Appeal Brief mailed May 5, 2008. The Notification states that the Appeal Brief submitted on April 22, 2008 purportedly fails to indicate an amendment filed subsequent to the final Office Action mailed August 22, 2007. Applicants respectfully submit that the Response to Final Office Action submitted on December 26, 2007 **contained no amendments** (a copy of the Response to Final Office Action submitted on December 26, 2007 is attached). The indication in PAIR that this document is an Amendment After Final is incorrect through Patent Office error. A corrected page 2 of the Appeal Brief is being submitted to correct the statement that the claims were most recently amended via an Amendment submitted on June 8, 2007 and not August 8, 2007.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: June 5, 2008

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I. Real Party in Interest

The real party in interest in this application and the appeal is Becton Dickinson and Company by an assignment recorded September 6, 2002 on Reel 013266, Frame 0424.

II. Related Appeals and Interferences

There are no other related patents or applications related to this invention on appeal or that are involved in an interference proceeding.

III. Status of Claims

Claims 1-25 are pending and are the subject of this appeal. Claims 1-25 stand finally rejected and are reproduced in the Claims Appendix (Section VIII).

IV. Status of Amendments

Amendments to the claims were filed on June 8, 2007 and were entered in the August 22, 2007 final rejection.

V. Summary of the Claimed Subject Matter

Briefly, the present invention is directed a health outcomes and disease management network and related method for providing improved healthcare. A network 102 of healthcare managers and healthcare providers 106 interactively cooperate with patients or clients 112 to enroll clients in the network with a plan of care, monitor and evaluate patient status to provide the most appropriate treatment for the patients in the most cost-effective manner, thus improving overall healthcare. The network 102 aggregates data to reveal population trends and outcomes, and provide rapid feedback and information on the best medical/economic practices to the local networks.